(i) They will neither be entitled to any domiciliary visits by the CGHS doctor nor would be entitled for any travel expenses for availing facilities from the dispensary.

(ii) They will not be eligible to be attached with any VIP CGHS dispensary such as North Avenue and South Avenue CGHS dispensaries in Delhi and other heavily loaded CGHS dispensaries.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Domiciliary visits are normally performed during emergency, for which the CGHS doctors visit the beneficiaries including CGHS pensioner beneficiaries at their residences provided their residence falls within the covered area of the particular CGHS dispensary. In view of the aforesaid facts insistence on an undertaking does not arise.

Importance of Ayurvedic medicines

3155. SHRI R. KAMARAJ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing importance of Ayurvedic medicines in the country which are used to cure all the diseases;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to preserve and protect the traditional herbal plants which are used to prepare Ayurvedic medicines;

(c) whether Government propose to financially assist all the State Governments to preserve and protect Ayurvedic herbal plants;

(d) if so, the details therof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Government are aware that Ayurvedic medicines are becoming popular.

(b) to (d) Government have been taken steps to encourage conservation and cultivation of plants species through various schemes such as *in-situ/ex-situ* conservation, Biosphere Reserves, establishment of Gene Banks and Developing Agrotechniques. A Medicinal Plants Board has also been set up to coordinate with Ministries/Departments/Organizations/State/UT Governments for development of medicinal plants in general including their cultivation and conservation. The Board has also sanctioned 324 projects in different parts of the country during the last 2 financial years for such purposes.

(e) Does not arise.